

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending May 8, 1994

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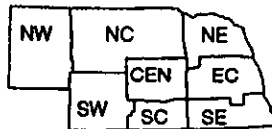
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Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week varied from two degrees above normals in the northwest to six degrees below normals in the east central. Precipitation was widespread with most amounts averaging around one-tenth to two-tenths of an inch.

GENERAL

Despite limited days for fieldwork last week, producers were able to plant corn and soybeans at a near normal rate, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The frost early in the week with cool, cloudy days following limited fieldwork, slowed germination, damaged some wheat in the western districts, and continued the slow growth of pastures. Producer activities included fieldwork when possible, monitoring on-farm stored grain, and moving cattle to pastures.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 46% fair, 50% good, and 4% excellent. By week's end, 66% of the crop had jointed. This compares with 43% last year and 65% for the five-year average. Concerns remain over the potential damage from the previous freeze and wind stress in the western part of the State. Areas of the west continue to need moisture for wheat fields.

CROPS (Cont.)

Corn planting made good progress last week in spite of limited days suitable for fieldwork. As of Sunday, 58% of the acreage had been planted and compares with 24% last year, and 53% for the five-year average. Plant emergence has been slowed due to the cool, cloudy weather conditions and still cool soil temperatures. Limited frost damage to corn was reported as most had not yet emerged.

Sugar beet replanting activities were underway where previous freezing temperatures damaged the crop.

Soybean planting had begun in most areas of the State with 5% planted to date. This compares with 1% last year and 5% for the average.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 4% poor, 29% fair, 62% good, and 5% excellent. Growth has been slowed by the cool, cloudy conditions.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 96% of normal and compares with 99% of normal last year. Some producers were busy branding calves and moving cattle to pastures. Others had not started cattle on pastures as they wait for additional grass growth. Pastures were off to a slow start due to cool conditions.

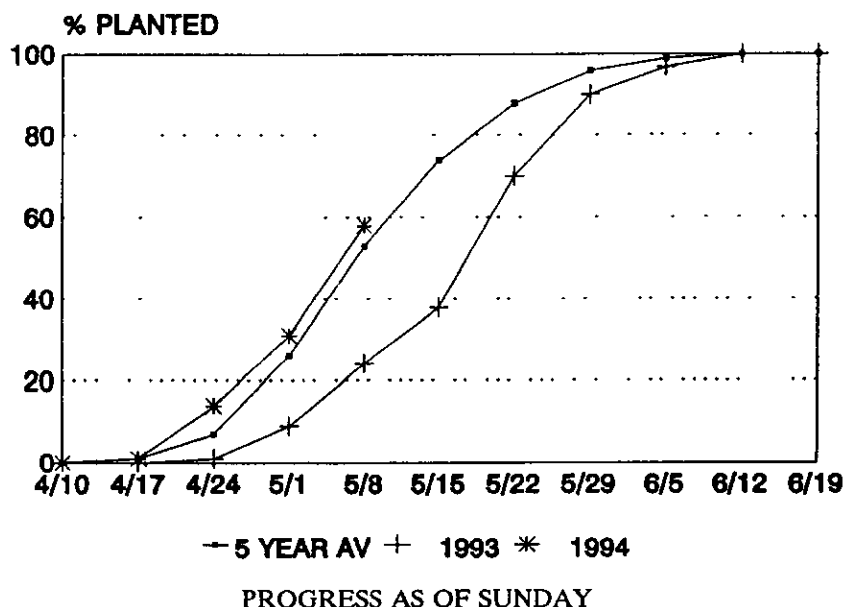
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 8, 1994	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn planted	53	28	47	58	64	56	62	78	58	31	24	53
% soybeans planted	0	0	2	6	5	6	4	11	5	0	1	5
% wheat jointed	50	27	56	65	39	85	85	64	66	33	43	65
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 6, 1994												
Days suitable	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.2	3.9	3.4	2.1	2.1	3.4	3.9	4.0	
Topsoil moisture - Short	47	0	4	0	11	29	7	0	11	10	3	
(Percent) - Adequate	53	93	96	87	67	71	66	59	74	76	52	
- Surplus	0	7	0	13	22	0	27	41	15	14	45	
Subsoil moisture - Short	33	0	4	0	4	14	0	0	6	2	0	
(Percent) - Adequate	67	93	96	100	81	86	93	94	88	94	77	
- Surplus	0	7	0	0	15	0	7	6	6	4	23	

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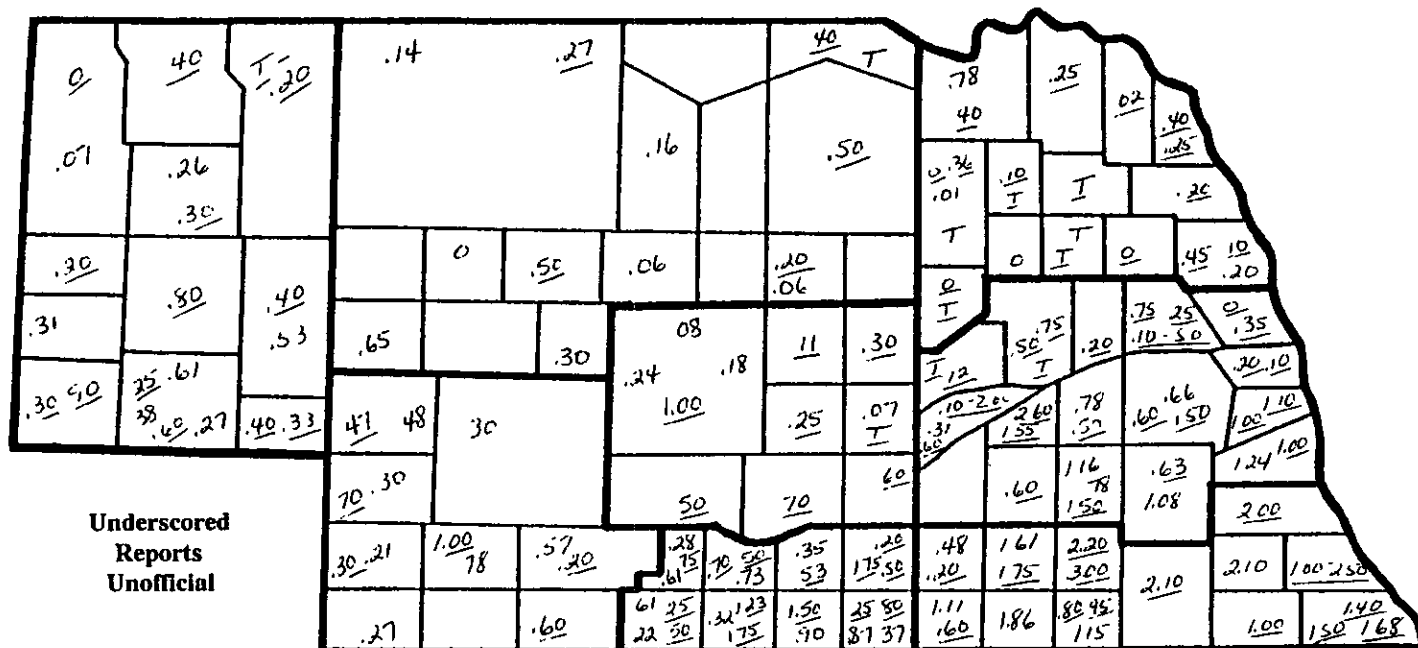
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CORN PLANTED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1994



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 6, 1994

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week35	.15	.17	.14	.86	.42	.53	1.39
Total since April 1	1.06	2.01	2.60	3.36	3.25	2.08	2.97	4.25
Normal since April 1	2.33	2.78	3.18	3.05	3.56	2.37	2.77	3.52
Total as % of normal	45%	72%	82%	110%	91%	88%	107%	121%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 8, 1994

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	---	---	---	---	---
Scottsbluff	76	35	55	+2	.13
Sidney	78	35	56	---	.05
NC Valentine	75	30	54	0	.18
NE Norfolk	79	42	55	-2	.11
Sioux City	75	38	53	-5	.20
CEN Grand Island	81	42	54	-4	.14
Ord	81	40	53	---	.01
EC Lincoln	80	36	53	-5	.75
Omaha	81	39	53	-6	.03
SW Imperial	86	39	58	---	.07
North Platte	84	32	54	-1	.35

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.